

Press Release



Office of Communications • 401 East Pratt Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Contact: Karen Glenn Hood • 410.767.6318 • kglenn@choosemaryland.org

STATE, PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERS CLEAN UP 14 BROWNFIELDS SITES, HELP LEVERAGE \$64 MILLION IN PRIVATE INVESTMENT

American Brewery building, former GM site among sites brought back into productive use

BALTIMORE, MD (February 4, 2009) – Continuing his commitment to sustainability and revitalizing Maryland's older neighborhoods, Governor Martin O'Malley today announced that the State's economic development arm helped fund the cleanup of 14 Brownfields sites in Maryland in 2008. Through the Brownfields Revitalization Incentive Program (BRIP), a collaborative effort between the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED) and the Maryland Department of Environment, DBED provided \$1.25 million to help bring the properties, located in Baltimore City, Anne Arundel and Montgomery counties, back into productive use, helping to leverage more than \$64 million in private investment.

"The Brownfields program is helping drive neighborhood revitalization, spur commercial redevelopment and create hundreds of jobs," said Governor O'Malley. "Throughout its history, the Brownfields program has helped to bring thousands of acres of contaminated property into productive use and remains one of our most successful tools for creating economic development."

Among the sites assisted last year was the American Brewery property in East Baltimore, which received a \$360,000 conditional grant to help the site's owners, Humanim, Inc., a Columbia-based nonprofit human services agency that is currently renovating the site. The company is expected to relocate 250 employees to the new building and hire 60 employees from the East Baltimore community. Another notable Brownfields project was the redevelopment of the former GM-Broening Highway property by Duke [Realty Corporation] Baltimore, LLC., which received a \$500,000 conditional grant to help defray the costs of cleaning up the site. Duke is redeveloping the site, now known as Chesapeake Commerce Center, into a warehouse/distribution business park, and has already completed two new buildings totaling more than 460,000 square feet with 100 percent tenant occupancy. And, an 18-acre former manufacturing site within Odenton Town Center in Anne Arundel County also received Brownfields funding last year, with \$63,850 being used to help redevelop the property for possible BRAC development.

"The American Brewery project epitomizes what can be achieved when the public, private and not-for-profit sectors share a vision," said Henry Posko, Chief Executive Officer of Humanim. "Governor O'Malley's support for Humanim's rehabilitation of the American Brewery Building began as Mayor of Baltimore and continues through his role as our State's Chief Executive. The Brownfields program is allowing us to complete the environmental remediation necessary for Humanim's Baltimore campus. We are appreciative of the State's grant for our capital project and their continued support for our Humanim's many programs."

"Brownfields redevelopment is an important part of protecting the environment and public health," said Maryland Department of the Environment Secretary Shari T. Wilson. "DBED's BRIP program is a vital and effective incentive to encourage private parties to rehabilitate underused properties."

BRIP was created in 1997 to provide financial incentives and property tax credits for the redevelopment of properties previously used for commercial or industrial purposes. The properties must be located within designated growth areas of participating jurisdictions, which currently includes 12 Maryland counties and Baltimore City and five municipalities. Financial incentives are based on the current condition of the site, as well as the intended project's economic impact, creation and retention of employment and private investment.

About DBED:

The Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development stimulates private investment and creates jobs by attracting new businesses, encouraging the expansion and retention of existing companies, and providing workforce training and financial assistance to Maryland companies. The Department promotes the State's many economic advantages and markets local products and services at home and abroad to spur economic development and international investment, trade and tourism. Because they are major economic generators, the Department also supports the Arts, film production, sports and other special events. For more information, visit www.choosemaryland.org.

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